

CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for permanently aligning text utterances to their associated audio utterances,
5 the method comprising:

playing a first single audio utterance from a unitary audio file to produce a child single
audio utterance, wherein the first single audio utterance is aligned with a first text utterance;
recording the child single audio utterance into a child audio file; and
aligning the child single audio utterance with the first text utterance.

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2. The method of claim 1, wherein playing the first single audio utterance includes setting
a mixer utility associated with a sound card to direct the output of the sound card to a sound
recorder.

20 3. The method of claim 2, prior to setting the mixer utility, storing initial settings of the
mixer utility.

4. The method of claim 3, after recording the child single audio utterance into a child
audio file, the method further comprising:

resetting the mixer utility to the initial settings.

25 5. The method of claim 1, wherein recording the child single audio utterance includes
sending an output of a sound card to a sound recorder.

6. The method of claim 1, after aligning the child single audio utterance with the first text
utterance, the method further comprising:

transmitting the child single audio utterance aligned with the first text utterance.

30 7. A computer implemented method for permanently aligning text utterances to their
associated audio utterances, the method comprising:

(a) finding a mixer utility associated with a sound card;

- (b) opening the mixer utility, the mixer utility having settings that determine an input source and an output path;
- (c) playing a first single audio utterance from a unitary audio file to produce a child single audio utterance;
- 5 (d) recording the child single audio utterance into a child audio file; and
- (e) repeating (c) through (d) until all first single audio utterances from the unitary audio file have been played.

8. The method of claim 7, further comprising:

10 changing the mixer utility settings to mute audio output to speakers associated with the sound card.

9. The method of claim 7, further comprising:

saving the settings of the mixer utility;

changing the settings of the mixer utility to specify the input source; and

restoring the saved settings of the mixer utility after all first single audio utterances from the unitary audio file have been played.

10. The method of claim 7, wherein the first single audio utterance is aligned with a first text utterance, the method further comprising:

11. The method of claim 7, wherein recording the child single audio utterance includes sending an output of a sound card to a sound recorder.

25 12. The method of claim 7, after all first single audio utterances from the unitary audio file have been played, the method further comprising:

transmitting from the child audio file at least one of the child single audio utterances.

30 13. The method of claim 7, after recording the child single audio utterance into a child audio file, sequentially naming the child single audio utterance.

14. A machine-readable medium having stored thereon instructions, which when executed by a set of processors, cause the set of processors to perform the following:

(a) finding a mixer utility associated with a sound card;

5 (b) opening the mixer utility, the mixer utility having settings that determine an input source and an output path;

(c) playing a first single audio utterance from a unitary audio file to produce a child single audio utterance;

(d) recording the child single audio utterance into a child audio file; and

10 (e) repeating (c) through (d) until all first single audio utterances from the unitary audio file have been played.

15. The machine-readable medium of claim 14, further comprising:

changing the mixer utility settings to mute audio output to speakers associated with the sound card.

16. The machine-readable medium of claim 14, further comprising:

saving the settings of the mixer utility;

changing the settings of the mixer utility to specify the input source; and

restoring the saved settings of the mixer utility after all first single audio utterances from the unitary audio file have been played.

17. The machine-readable medium of claim 14, wherein the first single audio utterance is aligned with a first text utterance, the method further comprising:

25 aligning the child single audio utterance with the first text utterance.

18. The machine-readable medium of claim 14, wherein recording the child single audio utterance includes sending an output of a sound card to a sound recorder.

30 19. The machine-readable medium of claim 14, after all first single audio utterances from the unitary audio file have been played, the method further comprising:

transmitting from the child audio file at least one of the child single audio utterances.

20. The machine-readable medium of claim 14, after recording the child single audio utterance into a child audio file, sequentially naming the child single audio utterance.